

## A Day in the Navy

### 14 May 2008

- On May 14th, 331,384 Active Duty, 70,060 Reserve Component Sailors, with 4,805 Reserves mobilized, and 179,482 civilians are serving in the Department of the Navy.
- 279 active ships are in service. 155 (55%) including 5 carriers and 5 amphibious large deck ships are underway.
- Approximately 10,116 Individual Augmentees are deployed on the ground around the world in support of the Global War on Terror, including 2,781 in Iraq and 1,446 in Afghanistan.
- USS Essex Expeditionary Strike Group is on station in international waters off Burma, as part of JTF Caring Response, willing and ready to provide assistance following Tropical Cyclone Nargis. The group, which includes USS Essex (LHD 2), USS Juneau (LPD 10), USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49), and USS Mustin (DDG 89) are capable of providing air, sea and medical support to humanitarian operations to include the delivery of supplies and medical personnel to affected areas.
- Cobra Gold 08, the 27th annual U.S. - Thai exercise that promotes regional stability and security continues with USS Patriot (MCM 7), EOD Mobile Unit Five, 31<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Five remaining active in the exercise.
- USS Hue City (CG 66), USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81), and USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) are conducting operations in the Eastern Mediterranean. Helicopters from the Harry S. Truman Strike Group are flying supplies from Cyprus to the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon. USS Nashville (LPD 13) is transiting the Straits of Hormuz to join the group.
- USS Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group is in the Mediterranean on the final leg of a 6-month deployment.
- USS Nassau (LHA 4) and USS Philippine Sea (CG 58), part of CTF 152, is wrapping up Goalkeeper III (GKIII), a three-day multilateral exercise that included coalition partners from Bahrain, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Great Britain and the United States. GKIII trained forces in various aspects of Maritime Security Operations (MSO) as well as command and control functions with the Royal Bahraini naval staff.
- USS Ashland (LSD 48) is operating as the Afloat Forward Staging Base (AFSB) for CTF 158 performing Maritime Security Operations (MSO) for the Al Basrah Oil Terminal (ABOT) and Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminals (KAAOT).
- USS Ross (DDG 71) is participating in Exercise Inspired Union 2008 (IU 08) with Pakistani naval forces as part of regional Maritime Security Operations (MSO).

- USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74), with Carrier Strike Group 3 embarked, and Training Air Wing 1 and 2, are underway off the coast of Southern California conducting Naval Aviation Training Command carrier qualifications where naval aviators in training are making their first landings on an aircraft carrier at sea in an effort to become qualified for future carrier air wing assignment.
- USS Oklahoma City (SSN 723) is underway in the SOUTHCOM area of responsibility conducting counter illicit trafficking operations in support of U.S. and participating nation drug control programs.
- Commander, 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet and his flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) are in Jakarta, Indonesia. While in port, they are holding staff talks to discuss ways to further military-to-military interaction; hosting a reception for the Indonesian Deputy Chief of Naval Staff; and performing community relations projects in conjunction with local organizations.
- USS Cleveland (LPD 7) is following USS Tarawa (LHA 1) in departing Australia, after participating in commemoration ceremonies for the 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. Cleveland visited Brisbane, where the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet was formed during World War II.
- USS Jarrett (FFG 33) is underway in the Western Pacific en route Southeast Asia in support of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2008.
- USS Curtis D. Wilbur (DDG 54), along with Canadian ships HMS Ottawa and HMS Regina and Japanese ships JS Hatakaze and JS Inazuma, are exercising various operations to increase interoperability including passing maneuvers, helicopter cross decking, air defense exercise, and anti-submarine exercise.
- Reserve Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 17, homeported at Fort Carson, CO, are building combat outposts, conducting camp maintenance, building huts, making bridge repairs, conducting safety upgrades to hardstand facilities, and executing force protection projects at Iraq and Afghanistan in support of I Marine Expeditionary Force and Navy Special Operations Forces.
- USS Nimitz Carrier Strike Group continues its scheduled deployment to the Western Pacific and is conducting flight operations with its embarked Carrier Air Wing 11.
- USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), the nation's only permanently forward-deployed carrier, pulled in to Yokosuka, Japan, for the last time as it prepares to be relieved by USS George Washington after serving 10 years in the Western Pacific.
- USS Stethem (DDG 63) is participating in Japan's 69<sup>th</sup> annual Black Ship Festival, which promotes the theme of peaceful relations between the Japanese and American people, and commemorates the 154th anniversary of Commodore Perry's 1853 landing at Shimoda and the subsequent opening of the port of Shimoda to the Western world.

- USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) is en route to begin Pacific Partnership 08, a four-month humanitarian assistance program that partners U.S. Navy and U.S. non-governmental organization personnel with host nation personnel to conduct assistance projects in five countries in the region. Among those embarked on Mercy are Maritime Expeditionary Security forces, Seabees and a civil affairs team from MCAS ONE.
- The Honorable John S. Thackrah, assistant secretary of the Navy for Research Development and Acquisition, visits USS Olympia (SSN 717) in the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. Thackrah is in Hawaii for the shipyard's centennial celebration.
- Reserve Officers and Sailors from SUBLANT Strike Group Ops are providing support aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group as the Submarine Element Coordinator and Submarine Advisory Team for Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX).
- VAW-77 is completing its last day of flight operations as part of a routine counter-narcotics detachment in support of the Joint Inter-Agency Task Force South. The Nightwolves flew over 375 flight hours and contributed to the seizure of one aircraft and 460 kilos of cocaine during this detachment.
- USS Boxer (LHD 4) is hosting 23 members of the Guatemalan media at several medical and construction sites and aboard the ship as part of Continuing Promise 2008, a Humanitarian Civic Assistance mission teaming American and Guatemalan health care providers and relief capabilities to demonstrate the cooperative partnership among allies.
- Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 5, and a civil affairs team from Maritime Civil Affairs Squadron (MCAS) Two are embarked in USS Boxer (LHD 4) in support of Continuing Promise (CP) 2008.
- Riverine Squadron Two is turning over with Riverine Squadron Three in western Iraq, after wrapping up its eight-month maiden deployment during which the squadron completed more than 600 combat missions.
- Naval Experimental Diving Unit, is evaluating prototype diving rigs in support of USMC diving requirements in Panama City, FL. The tests look to define the boundaries of human performance to enable better life support equipment design.
- Reserve Sailors from NR USS Crommelin (FFG 37) Augment Unit, homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, are supporting Navy Customs Battalions in the Bahamas and Kuwait.